



Accent on Agriculture

Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau
Also serving Western Philadelphia County

Affiliated with Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation

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- Jan. 19th: "Navigating The Markets When The Breaking News Won't Stop"
- Feb. 19th: "Why YOU Matter" with Rep. John Lawrence

Hoffman Elected as PFB's Ninth President

Juniata County farmer Chris Hoffman has been elected as the ninth President of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) by voting delegates at the 72nd Annual Meeting of the state's largest farm organization. Hoffman served as the vice president for the past eight years.

"As an organization we are called to be the leader in agriculture and I am excited about what the future has in store for all of us," President-elect Hoffman said. "I know that we need to be united, we need to work hard to identify the problems, and we need to communicate. We need to come together as a uni-

fied voice to make this Farm Bureau do the impossible."

Hoffman has been heavily involved with Farm Bureau over the past 28 years, serving on PFB's State Board of Directors for 11 years and as a member of the board's Executive Committee.

As Vice President, Hoffman was responsible for chairing PFB's
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Message from CDCFB President Douglas B. Lapp

2022 has come and gone and for me personally it was an absolute blur. This completes my first year as the president of the Chester / Delaware County Farm Bureau and it has been a joy and also quite the learning experience. The biggest change of the year for Farm Bureau happened at the PA State Level with the election of a new President and Vice-President. I encourage you to read about each individual within this newsletter. I have great faith that they will make an excellent team to move the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau



forward.

It was also a crazy year for my family on a personal level. My wife Emily and I welcomed our second son, Micah Everett, into the world in June. The last six months of having two boys under 20 months old have been challenging but so incredibly rewarding. Our boys have opened my eyes to the world and the challenges it brings.

When I was growing up I always heard older farmers talk about the decreasing farmland in Chester County and that there wouldn't be any left for me to farm. Yet, here we are, making a go at it, still working as a family in the most rewarding profes-

sion I can imagine.

With those stories in mind I think of our boys Roman and Micah and I wonder what it will be like when they reach my age and are starting a family. Will they have the opportunities to farm that I have? What about your children and grandchildren? Are we setting the next generation up with more opportunity or shouldering them with more burdens? This is my new motivation for being involved with the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. I want to advocate within the most effective grassroots organization in the nation to try to influence public policy to ensure that life for our children will be better and more pros-



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Upcoming Winter Meetings Hosted by CDCFB Young Ag Professionals

The Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau is proud to announce that we will be hosting two meetings this winter. Our goal with these events is to create more community within our membership as well as provide more tangible benefits. These events are being coordinated by the Chester Delaware County Young Agriculture Professionals Committee but they are open to the public. Please spread the word as you will not want to miss these conversations.

**HOSTETTER
GRAIN**

Thursday January 19th @ Victory Brewing Parkesburg

“Navigating The Markets When The Breaking News Won’t Stop” ~ Bill Hostetter

Bill Hostetter will be presenting to those in attendance giving a run down of everything impacting

the commodity markets in recent years. He’ll give insight into what has been affecting the markets and things to look for moving forward. With the high levels of current commodity prices and the even higher cost of agriculture inputs, this presentation should be very timely for all in agriculture.

In addition to Bill Hostetter, Andy Engle will be speaking briefly on the topic of Agriculture Insurance policies. After Andy’s farm operations experienced a tragic accident on June 1, 2022, he realized how important it was that his insurance policy was written correctly. Andy wants to make sure that others in agriculture hear this message and review their own policies.

Thursday February 16th @ Old Stone Cider in Landenberg

“Why YOU Matter” ~ Representative John Lawrence

Representative John Lawrence will be joining us to shed light into why the farm bureau’s grassroots members are so important. He’ll go over the importance of our advocacy and meeting face to face with legislatures to explain the importance of Agriculture in Pennsylvania. Rep. Lawrence will also give a brief “State of the State” when it comes to Agriculture Policy in Harrisburg and what to expect as we move into the next legislative session with a divided PA House and Senate.

If you are planning on attending either of these events please call or text 610-932-7363 to RSVP.



New PFB President Continued from page 1

policy development process, where farmers recommend solutions to benefit agriculture and rural communities.

He currently chairs the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau State Agriculture Promotion Committee, which focuses on raising money for the Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation and encouraging county-level events that promote consumer awareness of agriculture. Hoffman also previously served for four years as chair of the American Farm Bureau Federation’s Promotion and Education Committee. He was named America’s Pig Farmer

of the Year by the National Pork Board in 2019.

“I look forward to being a part of all of us working together to drive us into the future that people want to be a part of this organization. I want to be the organization that people look to when they have questions and one that farmers need every day. I am humbled, I am honored, and I look forward to working with each member and the committees. Thank you for this opportunity and I will do everything that I can to move this organization forward.”

Hoffman also serves as a member of the Penn State Board of Trustees and is involved in other agricultural organizations.

2023 CDCFB Scholarship Applications are now open!

The deadline to apply is
March 15, 2023.

See www.CDCFB.com for details and for a printable application, or email ChesterCountyFarmBureau@gmail.com.



Nagle elected as PFB's Vice President

Cambria County beef and crop farmer Tommy Nagle was elected as the Vice President of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) by the state board of directors on Wednesday after the position was vacated by Chris Hoffman, who is now serving as PFB President.

"I'm looking forward to working very closely with PFB President Hoffman and his visions for Farm Bureau as far as uniting members and expanding our membership base," Nagle said. "I'm also looking forward to looking for some different avenues to inform our consumers."

Nagle has been heavily involved with Farm Bureau for more than a decade, serving as a member of

PFB's state board of directors, representing District 12, which consists of Cambria, Clearfield and Indiana counties for the last three years.

In 2013, Nagle and his wife Tracey won PFB's Young Farmer and Rancher Achievement Award. Nagle raises beef cattle and grows crops on his family farm in Patton, Cambria County.

As Vice President, Nagle is responsible for chairing PFB's policy development process, where farmers recommend solutions to benefit agriculture and rural communities. Nagle held numerous positions on the Cambria County Farm Bureau Board of Directors since 2011, including time as president, vice president, policy development chair,

and Young Agriculture Professionals chair.

"I'm excited that Tommy was elected as the Vice President," PFB President Chris Hoffman said.

"I'm looking forward to working with him as we look to advance Farm Bureau policy and as we work together to create positive things for our members. Tommy brings a lot of knowledge from many different sectors of agriculture to the Vice Presidency. Together we will make a great team."



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Continued from page 1

perous. I hope you consider the impact that PFB makes on our society, culture, and laws every year when it comes time to consider whether or not you should renew your membership. We need your membership because the future needs our advocacy.

Last year in the winter newsletter I laid out a few goals for our county which were: engagement at the state and local level, cultivating our future generation, and showcasing the necessity for a strong farm bureau. Proudly, I can say we are driving towards meeting those goals. Last spring we met with the Chester County Commissioners and this fall Commissioner Josh Maxwell came to our annual meeting to give an update. To be engaged with our local leaders is of great importance when we think about important topics like land and farm preservation.

One of the things I'm most proud of is the effort within our Board of Directors to restart the engagement of our Young Agriculture Professionals division. This group is for CD-CFB members who are under 35. We are starting to put things in place to heighten the engagement level of our younger members which is vitally important to the future health of our organization. Our Young Agriculture Professionals committee is coordinating the kick off of several winter meetings. The goal with these events is to create more community within our membership as well as provide a more tangible benefit to our members. We choose topics for these events that are not typically talked about at Agriculture meetings. Hopefully you can attend and find them engaging. Bring a friend as they are open to the public.

I hope that as you think of the challenges we face in Southeastern PA you think of the Pa Farm Bureau as a partner alongside you. Our job

is to be your voice in the counties, Harrisburg, and D.C. We are only as strong as our membership. I encourage you to attend our annual events, our winter meetings, and to reach out to us throughout the year when we might be of assistance.

It's a pleasure to help drive the direction of the future for agriculture in Chester and Delaware Counties. I look forward to serving with and alongside you in the future. I hope you and your families had a very Merry Christmas.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hoffman".



Chester County Agricultural Award Winners

The Board of Chester County Commissioners and the Chester County Agricultural Development Council (Ag Council) present two annual awards, Farmer of the Year and Distinguished Agricultural Service. The Farmer of the Year award recognizes a farmer, farm family, partnership, etc., who maintains and exemplifies outstanding farming practices.

Chester County Farmer of the Year

The 2022 Chester County Farmer of the Year award was presented to Jamie Hicks, owner-operator of Hicks IV; a crop farming business on over 5,000 leased acres in Chester County and the surrounding region. His customers include everyone from equestrians with a couple horses to large-scale dairies. He also farms land for high profile organizations including Longwood Gardens and land trusts.

Hicks was nominated for the Farmer of the Year Award by the Chester County Agricultural Development Council. He is widely regarded in the agriculture community for his entrepreneurial drive, sustainable farming practices and innovative partnerships with research institutions including Stroud Water Research.

He sees great promise in farmers driving agribusiness which involves all the steps required to send an agricultural good to market, namely production, processing, and distribution. He believes new markets and product opportunities are the way forward including Pennsylvania's emerging hemp industry and looking at ways farmers can partner with nontraditional customers like online retailers interested in environmentally friendly packaging materials.

"We need to find ways to connect the next generation to the land and focus on emerging industries," Hicks says. "We need to connect agriculture to industry."

Learn more about Jamie Hicks and his business at www.hicksiv.com.



The Duncan Allison Award for Distinguished Agricultural Service, named after a former long-serving and incredibly dedicated board member, honors an individual(s) who has positively promoted, made significant contributions to, or provided exceptional services for the Chester County agricultural community.

The Duncan Allison Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award

The 2022 Duncan Allison Award for Distinguished Service to Agriculture was presented to the Baily family of Baily's Dairy of Pocopson Meadow Farm in West Chester, Pa. Three generations of the Baily family currently run the farm including patriarch Bernard Baily, daughter Becky Baily and her husband Eric Cockroft, and her daughter Meredith Parsons and son Tyler Parsons.

The family was recognized for positively promoting local agriculture and serving as community ambassadors on the industry's behalf. They have also played an integral role in hosting the Chester Valley Dairy 4-H club and leasing cows to young club members who wouldn't otherwise be able to participate.

"We grew up on the farm and were used to how things worked," says Becky, who oversees the milking and processing. "Now, there are so many kids in Chester County that are removed from the farm but want to get involved once they visit us."

The family is also deeply involved in helping to host the livestock portions of several area county fairs and festivals which are often the first time children get to meet farmers and see livestock up close.

The pandemic provided even more opportunities for the Baily family to make a difference, especially when it came to helping their Chester Valley Dairy 4-H club members cheer up nearby Pocopson Home residents with special bovine visitors in the summer of 2020.

"It made the Pocopson residents so happy to see the cows," recalls Meredith. "It was a really special moment for everyone."

Learn more about the Baily family and their dairy at www.bailysdairy.farm.



2022 CDCFB Annual Meeting

It was a busy fall for our members. On Sunday September 25th our organization met at Stroud Water Research Center for our annual meeting. This meeting is when we vote on policy proposals to send to the PFB state meeting to help steer the direction of Agriculture in PA. This year 22 policies were passed at our annual meeting. Prior to the meeting there was a meet and greet for our members and political candidates running for office in the fall of 2022. We are incredibly thankful to those running for office who took the time to come and listen to our members talk about the



office in the fall of 2022. We are incredibly thankful to those running for office who took the time to come and listen to our members talk about the

challenges facing the agriculture industry.

Also at the meeting we took time to thank Janet Robinson for her limitless dedication to our organization. Janet has served on our Board of Directors since the mid 1970's holding multiple positions and still serves as our membership processor. Her term as a Board Member concluded and she chose to not run again for reelection. Thank you Janet for your dedication to Chester County Agriculture.

Thanks to all of the members who attended our annual meeting. It is you that makes this organization great!



Stay in the Know with PFB Alerts

Be the first to know about major developments in Pennsylvania agriculture, state and federal policy, and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau advocacy and engagement by signing up for PFB text message alerts.

PFB members are informed through our print and digital communications. But sometimes there's news you need to know right away. That's why we've developed PFB text message alerts to send important updates right to your phone.

Signing up is easy. Simply text "PFBALERTS" to 833-554-0849.

By texting to this number, you agree to receive promotional messages sent via an auto dialer, and this agreement isn't a condition of any purchase. You also agree to the Terms of Service and Privacy Policy. Msg&data rates may apply. Up to 5 msg/mo. To unsubscribe, text STOP to 833-554-0849.

How to sign up for PFB Action Alerts

To sign up by email:

Visit www.pfb.com/ActNow.

Enter your email address and ZIP code under "Sign Up for Alerts" and click the arrow.

Enter your information and click "Save." Make sure to keep the box checked next to "Keep me subscribed to email alerts."

Start receiving and responding to important Action Alerts from PFB, via email!

To sign up by text message:

Text "PFB" to 50457.

You will receive a text message thanking you for signing up. Just click on the link highlighted in blue to complete the registration.

The link will send you to a registration page. Fill out the information and click SAVE.

Welcome New Members

Charles Allen, Media
 Kaitlin Bell, Nottingham
 Kathy Chaney, Upper Darby
 Rena Cuno, Chadds Ford
 Erin Doherty, Phoenixville
 Jeanne Fares, Chester Springs
 Jonathan Feinberg, Swarthmore
 Louis D. Floyd, Lansdowne
 Bassam Gabra, Thornton
 William Gardner, Broomall
 Gill Godwin, Havertown
 Debra King Grady, Pottstown
 Karen Graver-Toohey, Garnet Valley
 Donald Green, Upper Chichester
 Michael R. Guliano, Media
 Michael Hastie, Glen Mills
 Anthony Hornicek, Exton
 Sharon Jones, Malvern
 Bruce Linn, Avondale
 Kathy A. Londrillo, Downingtown
 Jared Matwiejowicz, Glen Mills
 Mark McDonnell, Phoenixville
 Crista N. Riepe, West Chester
 Dominic Roselli, Newtown Square
 Ricardo J. Quinones, West Chester
 Andrea Sai-Brady, Garnet Valley
 Michael J. Shay, Swarthmore
 Gordon T. Soda, Broomall
 Nader Toma, Media
 Jenifer Warren, Oxford
 Lorraine Wickersham, Yeadon
 Gregory Williams, Williams

Special thanks to our new CDCFB Farm Bureau members listed above! Also, thanks to all you members who faithfully renew your membership each year!

Make Shop Safety a Top Priority

As we enter into the winter months on the farm much of our work moves indoors to machinery sheds or the heated farm shop. Just because many of us are spending our time indoors doesn't mean danger is taking a holiday, but rather it's present in new forms. Please consider the following questions with your farm team and make necessary changes to keep everyone safe this winter!

If your shop is heated, have you serviced the heat source and checked to be sure all fumes are vented to the outside? Are flammable items stored well enough away from the heater to prevent sparking a fire? Are the extension cords you'll use for power tools in original condition or have they been cut and hastily repaired?

Do kids play in your shop during adverse weather....are you confident they can't get into power tools, chemicals, seed, or crash their

bike into the rack of sharp scrap iron near the welder?

Do you have fire extinguishers within reach of every door on the building? Is there a fully stocked medical kit within easy reach for an emergency? Do you have the essentials like safety glasses, gloves, face shields, hearing protection, and face masks if working with paint etc.? Can you enter the building without tripping over stuff?

Our team at Manor Hill Farms has recently had to make quite a few efforts to improve our shop safety since we frequently have little ones playing in the shop area. We've been able to source lockable cabinets to store all our power tools in so we don't have to worry about tragedy.

Battery-powered keypads are now found on all our entry doors so little ones cannot enter without adult supervision. Chemicals are stored in a separate building. A new habit

of sweeping the floor after each repair is in place just in case a future farmer falls off a pedal tractor.

The list could go on seemingly forever, but I trust everyone reading this is wise enough to get the picture. Let's all make shop safety a top priority for our farms this season.

For more info, visit this Farm Bureau Site: <https://www.ruralmutual.com/resource/farm-safety/5-important-farm-shop-safety-tips/>

Cheers to a safe winter and Merry Christmas!

Darryl M. King - *CDCFB Safety Committee Chair*



Farm Bureau Members and Staff Chosen for State Advisory Panel Roles, Governor-Elect's Transition Team

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau members and staff regularly participate on state advisory boards and commissions, as well as other groups formed to provide advice and counsel to state officials. On Dec. 1, Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman and Dairy Committee member Glenn Stoltzfus joined the Pennsylvania Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission (AHDC).

The AHDC includes six farmers among its membership and serves to facilitate an integrated approach to the diagnosis and investigation

of disease in farm animals, as well as to allow planned interventions in disease outbreaks rather than crisis interventions. The AHDC meets six times annually.

Farm Bureau Environmental Specialist Grant Gulibon was recently elected to chair the DEP Agricultural Advisory Board (AAB) for 2023. The AAB provides advice and expertise to the DEP Secretary regarding the nature of agriculture in the Commonwealth. The board also reviews and provides comments on DEP policies, rules, and

regulations which have an impact or a potential impact on agriculture or the agricultural community.

Finally, Farm Bureau Manager of Government Affairs and Communications Justin Clapper was recently appointed to Governor-elect Josh Shapiro's Economic Development transition team. He will be serving on the Rural/Agriculture subcommittee and providing perspective to the new administration on ways to grow agriculture in Pennsylvania and improve rural quality of life.

Farms to Families Immersion Lab, Powered by GIANT

Celebrating National Farmer's Day, the GIANT Company and the PA Friends of Agriculture Foundation unveiled the PA Farms to Families Immersion Lab at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center in Harrisburg, Pa. The mobile immersion lab connects families to four Pennsylvania farms and the farm-to-table process, facilitating hands-on learning experiences and authentic food connections.

"The PA Farms to Families Immersion Lab is part of The GIANT Company's commitment to connecting families to a better future," said Dave Lessard, Vice President, of omnichannel merchandising for the



GIANT Company. "The lab connects families to the farmers producing their food through an immersive, hands-on learning experience. It

also pays tribute to the farmers who make our work possible. Together, we help families gather around the table, and we hope the immersion lab inspires the next generation of farmers and food system leaders."

The immersion lab showcases BrightFarms - a hydroponic greenhouse, Buona Foods - a mushroom farm, Lazy Hog Farm - a swine operation, and Painterland Sisters - a dairy farm and yogurt processor, featuring their on-farm production and environmental practices that bring foods from field to plate. Guests can experience driving a tractor through a virtual reality corn field, quiz their knowledge of common fruits and vegetables, practice building a balanced meal with Pennsylvania-grown foods, and explore growing career opportunities in food and agriculture.

The GIANT Company sponsored the PA Farms to Families Immersion Lab in partnership with the



PA Friends of Agriculture Foundation. It will hit the road this fall, visiting school and community events across Pennsylvania.

"The immersion lab powered by GIANT helps the PA Friends of Agriculture Foundation expand the reach of its mission - Planting Seeds. Cultivating Knowledge. Harvesting an Understanding of Agriculture," said Rick Ebert, President of Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and chair of PA Friends of Agriculture Foundation. "Consumers enjoy three meals a day, but many do not understand the process of bringing food from farm to table. The immersion lab serves as a connector, helping consumers better understand the process of food and agriculture and the role they play in our daily lives."

PA Game Commission Applauds Change in Antlerless License Sales

The way hunters apply for Pennsylvania antlerless deer licenses is about to change for the first time in decades.

Senate Bill 431, which would allow hunters to buy antlerless licenses through the HuntFishPA automated licensing service, was signed into law this week. When it takes effect with the 2023-24 license year, antlerless licenses will be available for purchase online or in person at any license issuing agent.

PFB is in favor of the legislation aimed at making it easier to purchase an antlerless license when you purchase an antlered license.

The Game Commission, hunt-

ing organizations including the National Deer Association, Pennsylvania Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen and Conservationists, the United Bowhunters of Pennsylvania and others, and everyday hunters supported the bill, championing it as the final step to fully modernizing license sales.

Until now, hunters applied for antlerless licenses via mail, sending those familiar pink envelopes to county treasurers, the only entity permitted to sell them. They had to do so according to a set schedule, with various deadlines based on state residency and rounds of sales, using a self-addressed stamped

envelope and paper checks, something increasingly foreign to some hunters.

There were, in short, a lot of variables in play, and that occasionally led to problems with hunters getting licenses or not.

Given all that, the pink envelope system was seen by many as a barrier to hunting participation, especially when it comes to recruiting new hunters. Allowing for antlerless license sales through HuntFishPA will address those issues.

Prior to the start of next license year, the Game Commission will notify hunters on the process for applying for an antlerless license under the new system.

AFBF: What Is the Farm Bill, and Why Does it Matter?

The farm bill refers to an authorization of mandatory and discretionary spending bills appropriated to provide assistance related to food and farms. It is a multi-year law that is primarily executed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and it governs a wide variety of agricultural and food programs. First created to help struggling farmers in the 1930s, the farm bill has expanded to be a resource to help the industry grow and thrive in an ever-evolving world.

The current farm bill, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, is set to expire on Sept. 30, 2023. Discussions about how best to address the issues of agriculture in the 2023 Farm Bill have already begun. These will be especially important given what the agriculture sector has been up against over the past few years and the various unknowns farmers and ranchers face.

The farm bill provides an important, consistent opportunity for policymakers to address agricultural and food issues comprehensively. It has grown over the decades to serve food and agriculture, but its roots are in farm commodity program support. These traditionally support commodities including corn, cotton, wheat, soybeans, rice, dairy, peanuts, and sugar.

The farm bill has expanded and broadened to include nutrition assistance, conservation, research, specialty crops and bioenergy programs. Because of this, the farm bill brings together some of the most unlikely partners to advocate for a legislative package composed of provisions that would likely not survive the legislative bureaucracy

as stand-alone measures.

The farm bill continues to be entangled in political debates and ideological policy conversations. Over time, programs have been adjusted to respond to the market and economic pressures of agriculture, the U.S. and the world. As ideas are collected for future farm bills, even in today's debate, the question remains the same: how can the farm bill best serve its constituents?

An important note for the 2023 Farm Bill: The House Ag Committee Chairman is Glenn Thompson from Pennsylvania. This is the first Pennsylvanian to chair the Ag committee in over a century. This should give Pennsylvania a leading seat at the table when negotiating the 2023 Farm Bill.



PFB 72nd Annual Statewide Meeting Update

November 14-16 members from the CDCFB attended the 2022 PFB annual meeting in Hershey. The main purpose of the annual meeting is for every county farm bureau to send delegates to vote on policies submitted from members like you from all across the state. This year our counties sent 22 policies to the state level to be debated.

During the three days of deliberation, 213 policies were debated by the delegates and voted on as to whether they would be submitted to the PFB Policy Book. This book directs how the PFB lobbies legislative members to get your priorities turned into legislation or regulation. This process is the power of the

farm bureau.

If you have a recurring problem on your farm, you can bring that to our county organization during our summer policy development meetings. During those meetings, we will help you turn the problem into an actionable policy to submit first to our county's annual meeting and then to the state meeting. This grassroots advocacy is what separates the Farm Bureau from many other organizations. Lawmakers know that when they hear from farm bureau members and representatives, the policies they are speaking to came from people like you.

A major change this year that was approved by the delegates was

altering the PFB dairy policy which saw major changes during the 2021 annual meeting.

After the main delegate session concluded, the delegates voted on the position of PFB President. President Ebert, who served for 8 years, was being challenged by Vice-President Hoffman. The CDCFB Board of Directors met with both candidates over zoom in late October and at our November meeting the board voted and decided to have our delegates vote in favor of Vice-President Hoffman, who ultimately won the election. The remainder of the Vice-Presidential term is being filled by Tom Nagle who was selected by the PFB Board of Directors.

PFB to Co-Host Webinar Series on Agrivoltaics

The solar development opportunities for dual use of solar and agriculture are increasing, but how, exactly, can local and municipal officials develop siting and zoning ordinances for this new way of co-utilizing land, and what about opportunities that are still in development?

This four-part series, hosted by Penn State, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the NY & PA Farm Bureaus, is designed to assist local and municipal officials in better understanding agrivoltaics and how to consider and discuss dual use as they make planning decisions.

Preserving Agriculture in the Face of Growing Solar Development, Thursday, Jan 5th 12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

As the demand for renewable energy, specifically solar, grows the competition for our finite land resources is increasing. In this ses-

sion, we'll explore how municipal officials can maintain their agricultural, rural, and cultural heritage while allowing for solar energy development.

Learn more and register at https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DhMXU8AdQMIDXaUHIGLQ6w.

Overview of Agrivoltaics, Thursday, Jan 19th 12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

In order for planners and other local officials to be better prepared to integrate agrivoltaics into the site plan review process, they first must understand what agrivoltaics is – current and potential future practices. In this session we'll discuss current and upcoming agrivoltaic practices.

Learn more and register at https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QGh1dNcvSmyMxX-qQUJGq-A.

Planning with Agrivoltaics in Mind, Thursday, Feb 2nd 12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

Now that we've built an understanding of current and upcoming agrivoltaics practices in our previous session, in this session we will discuss practices and considerations when developing siting and zoning ordinances.

Learn more and register at https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sJSj5hJDRWCIsIX-8HcmMiA.

Series Q&A, Thursday, Feb 16th 12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

With such a new and pressing topic there will likely be more questions than can be answered in the previous three sessions. At this session, we will invite the speakers from the previous sessions back for an hour plus of Q & A.

Sign Up Now to Volunteer for Ag Literacy Week

The registration deadline is fast approaching for this year's Ag Literacy Week! We need YOU to help us tell agriculture's story in local classrooms. To learn more about Ag Literacy Week and all that we are planning for our event, visit our website <https://pfbfriends.com/ag-literacy-week/> or contact the foundation at 717-761-2740.

Agriculture Literacy Week in PA is March 13-17, 2023. The registration deadline is January 10, 2023.

PA Friends of Agriculture Foundation invites all members of Pennsylvania's agriculture industry to join with us to celebrate Ag Literacy Week. By becoming a reader, you

can help us share the story of agriculture and teach students about the importance of agriculture in their daily lives

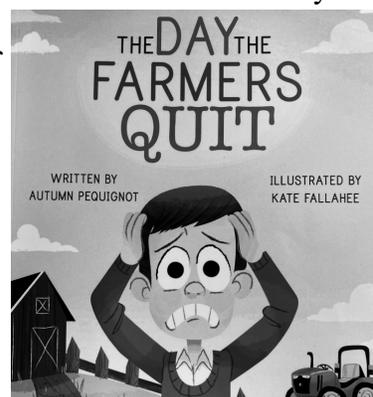
The Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation's Ag Literacy Week book for 2023 is **The Day The Farmers Quit**, written by Autumn Pequignot, and illustrated by Kate Fallahee.

The Day The Farmers Quit is an encouraging story of a boy that learns he can't live without the hard

work of his farmer friends.

You won't believe what this young boy wakes up to in his community when Farmer Bob and his farmer friends decide to take a vacation. He panics when he realizes the farmers and all the things they provide are gone. Find out how this young boy sets out to save his town and get the farmers to return from their vacation.

This heartwarming book helps children of all ages appreciate the importance of farmers in their community.



Janet Robinson Thanked for Service

I want to thank the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau Board of Directors for their recognition given to me during their Banquet in September. Also, thanks to County Commissioner Josh Maxwell for the Commissioners award presented to me for my 40+ years of service. Later, the Senate of Pennsylvania also surprised me with a Senatorial award for what I had done. All these years were “doing what I very much enjoyed!”

In October, I made a decision that it was time for me to “step down” as a Director on our Farm Bureau. My mission for several years has been to have more young directors on our Board. And, I am delighted to say that Kaitlin Bell, a very capable young lady (also a previous scholarship recipient) has been elected to take my place.

Incidentally, there are now five young directors under the age of 35 on our Board. That is awesome! They are the future of agriculture!

My experience with Farm Bureau began in the early 1970s when Harold Martin, President of Chester County Farmers Association (name at that time) stopped by our home and asked if I would be their Newsletter Editor. He said that I would need to attend their Board meetings to get the information needed for that position; and I agreed. I was later elected as a Board Director and soon became the Membership Processor as well.

However, in the early ‘80s, I decided to resign from my Farm Bureau responsibilities. At that time I was very busy with my daytime job as Administrative Secretary at Winterthur Museum and also was helping to plan our daughter’s wedding. About two years later, when asked to once again join the Farm Bureau Board, I had more time and accepted. Soon, I again took the responsibility as Newsletter Editor and Membership Processor. Not long after I was also the Secretary, and a

few years later the Treasurer.

Several years ago I also resigned from the Secretarial position and later on as Treasurer. Julie Brady very ably has filled those two positions. I continued being the Newsletter Editor and the Membership Processor. My husband, Howard, was the Membership Chairman. This has been a “labor of love” as we very much enjoyed getting to know many of you personally!

Three years ago I asked to be replaced as Newsletter Editor. I am happy to say that Doug and Elizabeth Lapp accepted that responsibility and are doing an excellent job (as you can see from this newsletter). I very much appreciate their willingness to serve.

Once again, thanks to all of you for what you have done to help make Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau the great organization it is today!

– Janet Robinson, *Membership Processor*

PFB Welcomes Lily Guthrie

PFB welcomes Lily Guthrie as the new State & Local Government Affairs Specialist in the Government Affairs and Communications Division! Lily graduated from the University of Wyoming with a B.S. in Communications.

Her interests include spending time outdoors, reading, cheering on the Washington Capitals, and going on adventures with her pit bull, Opal!

In her position she wishes to be a tireless advocate for PA Farm Bureau members. Lily gained her passion for agriculture from her involvement in 4-H and FFA where she raised livestock.

Welcome to the team Lily!

Lily Guthrie

State & Local
Government
Affairs
Specialist

Pennsylvania
Farm Bureau



New Board Member Kaitlin Bell

Kaitlin Bell grew up in Nottingham, PA on her family’s small cow/calf operation, B&R Angus. Growing up Kaitlin was extremely involved in 4-H and FFA, exhibiting cattle, sheep, hogs, and goats locally, as well as exhibiting cattle nationally. After high school, she moved to Manhattan, KS to study Agribusiness with a minor in Animal Sciences and Industry at Kansas State University. During her time at K-State, she was a member of the 2020 KSU Meat Judging Team, 2021 KSU National Champion Meat Animal Evaluation Team, and 2021 KSU Livestock Judging Team. When not judging shows or trying to market and sell show cattle, Kaitlin helps coach the Chester County 4-H Livestock Judging Team. Currently, she works at First Citizens Community Bank as an Ag Lender out of Kennett Square.



Chester-Delaware County Farm Bureau

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Kaitlin Bell	610-470-8026
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Melissa Harrop	484-252-1342
Shirley Herr	717-304-7122
YAP Chairperson: Steven Barr	484-883-4051
Women's Committee Chair: Frances Sharon	484-732-7089
Equiene Committee Chair: Andrea Collins	610-220-3742
PFB Regional Organization Director: Ethan Howard	610-470-8026 610-533-2558
PFB Board: Howard Robinson	717-529-2508

County Board Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend. For the location, contact Secretary Julie Brady.

Did you also know that as a Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau member – you are not only a member of the largest, most effective grassroots agricultural advocacy organization in Pennsylvania, but also a member on the national level with the American Farm Bureau Federation?

If you have not yet renewed for 2023, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. Take advantage of the added benefits/discounts available on Grainger products, Avis & Budget car rentals, Ford vehicles, John Deere, Case I-H, Cat equipment, Choice & Wyndham Hotels, Nationwide Insurance, AmeriGas, etc. It really does pay to be a Farm Bureau member!

To keep up to date with the happenings in Chester and Delaware County Farm Bureau, visit our new website:

www.ChesterDelawareCountyFarmBureau.com

Please send items for the newsletter to:
Doug Lapp at CDCFBnews@gmail.com

Nationwide Insurance PFB Agents:

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